

million Americans have in common? Diabetes.

In the last 40 years, we have seen a dramatic increase in the number of Americans with diabetes, and this year 200,000 will lose their lives to this disease, making it the sixth leading cause of death. In fact, this disease has grown so much that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have labeled diabetes as the epidemic of our time.

While much work and research remains to be done in this field, scientists at the University of Miami are making gigantic strides that may very well soon lead to a cure. Dr. Camilo Ricordi and Dr. Norma Kenyon are conducting exceptional work in the field of medical research. Their current work studies with anti-CD154, an artificial antibody, has succeeded in curing monkeys from potentially fatal causes of diabetes. Further progress will soon replace harmful and less effective drugs, and may allow some diabetic patients to lead normal, healthy lives without depending on needles and insulin.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the championship research team at the University of Miami.

#### USE HONEST BUDGETING, NOT GIMMICKS, AND FINALIZE FY 2000 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, just this past week I received lots of mail, especially from women in Texas, telling me how important Social Security really is to them. Social Security lifts 366,000 Texas women out of poverty, and it lowers the poverty rate among elderly women in this State from 55 to 19 percent.

It is distressing to me that while the elderly in my State are worried about the future of Social Security, the Republican-led Congressional Budget Office has revealed that the majority party's leadership has already used more than \$1 billion from the Social Security surplus.

Mr. Speaker, we have to stop it. Let us use honest budgeting and not gimmicks, and talking about a lockbox, when we know it is being ignored. We understand clearly that we cannot use \$13 billion from Social Security and save it at the same time.

Mr. Speaker, the people of my State and the people of this Nation want us to save Social Security.

#### PATH TO SECURE FUTURE IS A GOOD EDUCATION

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, every American child deserves a secure

future, and the path to the secure future is a good education. But too many of our Nation's most disadvantaged children are having their hopes and dreams dashed by failing schools.

It is time for a new approach. It is time to give these kids a chance to get out of the schools that are not working and get into ones that are. And it is time to recognize that no matter how much money we spend, our Nation's worst schools will never meet their responsibility to the students as long as the Federal Government ensnares those schools in red tape.

The Democrat solution is to keep spending more and more money on a failing system. The Republican solution is, spend the money, yes, but to reform the system as well.

In the coming weeks, the House will have the opportunity to rekindle the flame of hope for those children whose only hope lies within the schoolhouse walls, and I hope we will do it.

#### U.S. SHOULD SEND UNITED NATIONS A BILL

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the White House says we will lose our vote if we do not give \$1 billion to the United Nations. Some vote, folks. We have the same vote as countries the size of West Virginia trailer parks.

In addition, we now give three times more than Germany, five times more than France, 35 times more than China every year, plus \$22 billion in peacekeeping. If that is not enough to ban your nukes, while the White House prepares to veto America's defense bill, the White House wants more foreign aid money from Congress.

Beam me up here. We should not be sending a dime to the United Nations. We should send them a bill.

I yield back all the wars declared by the United Nations that were financed by Uncle Sam and fought by American troops.

#### PORKER OF THE WEEK AWARD

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, once again the Federal Government is playing a shell game with taxpayers' money. The Department of the Interior has been diverting millions of dollars collected from excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment to controversial environmental projects.

Congress dictated that the taxes collected be sent back to the States to fund wildlife and sports fishing restoration management programs. However, Fish and Wildlife Service officials di-

verted money meant to administer programs into a slush fund to pay for 75 pet projects that are not related to hunting. The projects include \$385,000 for the spotted owl, \$429,000 for Atlantic salmon; \$292,000 on wolf programs; \$116,000 on the blackfoot ferret; and \$791,000 for marine mammals.

Now, some of these may be good projects, but that is not what Congress gave the money for. It is estimated that more than \$45 million has been diverted and much of it wasted by the Fish and Wildlife agency. The Fish and Wildlife Service gets my "Porker of the Week Award."

#### WHERE IS THE SECRET REPUBLICAN BUDGET PLAN

(Mr. EDWARDS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, day 21. Day 21 of the new fiscal year, and I have one question. Where is the secret Republican budget plan? I asked this 2 days ago, and no Republican colleague could find it for me. I have asked the pages, I have looked in committee hearing rooms, I have looked on the seats of the floor of the House, but I cannot find it anywhere.

The Constitution says that the Congress, not the President, must pass appropriations bills. Yet while they are criticizing the President, 21 days into the new fiscal year, I cannot find the Republicans' secret budget plan.

Maybe there is a reason for that. Maybe it is because the CBO says their individual proposals would spend billions of dollars of Social Security money, at the very time they are running ads against Democrats saying we are spending Social Security money.

I would suggest for the Republicans to pretend like their proposals are protecting Social Security, is kind of like Al Capone claiming to be a crime fighter.

Day 21. It is time for the Republicans to show the country and the Congress their secret Republican budget plan.

#### COSPONSOR THE DEFENSE OF PRIVACY ACT

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, over the last several years, we have witnessed a drastic increase in the number of Federal Government proposals which erode personal privacy rights and other important civil liberties. These misguided proposals, such as the Federal banking regulators' so-called "Know Your Customer" scheme, clearly demonstrate that the Federal agencies continue to promulgate rules and dictate policy without consideration for the ultimate